

Data Sheet

USAID Mission:	Kazakhstan
Program Title:	Cross-Cutting Programs
Pillar:	Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance
Strategic Objective:	115-0420
Proposed FY 2004 Obligation:	\$3,157,000 FSA
Prior Year Unobligated:	\$601,000 FSA
Proposed FY 2005 Obligation:	\$1,619,000 FSA
Year of Initial Obligation:	2001
Year of Final Obligation:	FY 2006

Summary: This cross-cutting program supports all of USAID's strategic objectives, and includes three main components: training and exchanges to support USAID's technical assistance programs in areas directly relevant to primary health care, and the transition to democracy and a free-market economy; sub-grants by the Eurasia Foundation to strengthen NGOs working in private enterprise development, civil society, public policy, and media; and program development support for cross-cutting evaluations, studies, technical assistance, and management support.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2004 Program:

Participant Training (\$1,000,000 FSA). USAID will continue participant training to complement its ongoing technical assistance in Kazakhstan. More than 3,000 participants will be trained in Kazakhstan during FY 2004. There will be greater emphasis on more cost-effective in-country and regional training programs, in addition to the training that takes place in the United States and third countries. Training will support USAID's technical assistance in fiscal reform, small/medium enterprise development, democratic reform, local governance, health-care reform, energy and water resources, conflict resolution, education reform, and various cross-cutting objectives. Principal contractor/grantee: Academy for Educational Development.

Conflict Prevention (\$550,000 FSA carryover). This activity will remain active in the 15 initial communities, and the communities added during the FY 2003 expansion, in Southern Kazakhstan, Almaty, and Zhambul oblasts. USAID will continue to work more closely with other partners to fold into ongoing community strengthening efforts, particularly related to economic opportunities for urban youth, and to decrease the attractiveness of extremist organizations and the drug culture. Principal contractor/grantee: Agricultural Cooperative Development International/Volunteers in Overseas Cooperative Assistance.

Eurasia Foundation (\$942,000 FSA). Eurasia will continue to target NGOs that contribute to private sector development and civil society strengthening. Principal contractor/grantee: Eurasia Foundation.

Program Support (\$1,215,000 FSA, \$51,231 FSA carryover). A wide-range of program and personnel support activities will continue. As required, funding will enable USAID to support unanticipated opportunities to advance or reinforce USAID objectives of democratic and economic reform. Program personnel essential to the implementation of program activities will be supported by this category.

FY 2005 Program:

Participant Training (\$1,000,000 FSA). USAID plans to extend the agreement for the participant training activity in 2005. Based on an evaluation of 10 years of training that was conducted in FY 2003 and an intensive review with past participants, USAID will examine how the program can be re-designed for increased sector impact. Principal contractor/grantee: Academy for Educational Development.

Eurasia Foundation (\$424,242 FSA). The Eurasia Foundation will continue to provide grants on an open-door basis in all three sectors (private enterprise, civil society, and public administration) to NGOs in Kazakhstan. Principal contractor/grantee: same as above.

Program Support (\$195,130 FSA). A wide-range of program and personnel support activities will continue. As required, funding will enable USAID to support unanticipated opportunities to advance or reinforce USAID objectives. Assessments for continuation of the current strategy are planned for funding. Program personnel essential to the implementation of program activities will be supported by this category.

Performance and Results: In FY 2003, USAID trained over 3,000 Kazakhstan citizens (approximately 50% of who were women) in the areas of microfinance institution development, SME development, NGO advocacy, business education, and health care management. The overall impact of USAID's training programs in these areas has been broad and deep, as illustrated by the following examples.

After in-country training related to lobbying and increased citizen participation in legislation, members of the Youth Information Service of Kazakhstan successfully lobbied Parliament to change the draft law "On Youth Policy." Members collected 32 signatures from deputy parliamentarians who supported their position that the draft law was unconstitutional. Then, members submitted 18 amendments to the draft law and worked closely with the appropriate parliamentary working group to encourage consideration of the proposed amendments. As a result of these lobbying efforts, the draft law was officially stopped in parliament and sent back to the Ministry of Culture for rewrite.

Knowledge and skills gleaned from an in-country nursing management workshop prompted a participant from west Kazakhstan to organize a nursing association with 2,000 members in Uralsk. The Uralsk Nursing Association conducts training related to nursing management and leadership at both nursing schools and to nursing professionals. The association also provides financial assistance (derived from membership fees, donations and sponsorships) to members for licensing exams. In total, the association has given approximately \$7,000 worth of financial assistance to its members. In addition, the association issues methodological literature to nurses across the entire Uralsk Region.

In FY 2003, the Eurasia Foundation awarded 53 grants to Kazakhstan NGOs, totaling nearly \$960,000 (including non-USG funding over \$200,000). About 40% of these grant funds supported private enterprise development, with the remainder targeting improvements in the areas of civil society, public policy, and administration. Between direct funding and leveraged contributions, Eurasia Foundation raised more than \$0.75 for every U.S. government dollar it expended in FY 2003, and increased the percentage of leveraged grants to 42%.

During FY 2003, the Eurasia Foundation inaugurated three new initiatives in Kazakhstan related to cross-border trade, ecotourism, and transparent budgeting. Under the Russia-Kazakhstan Cross Border Trade Initiative, jointly implemented by the Eurasia Foundation and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, USAID facilitated cross-border trade by reducing customs barriers. Through the Open Budget Initiative, USAID assistance targeted at 30 NGOs engaged in budget-related public advocacy resulted in the approval by the Almaty City legislature of a program for rehabilitation of disabled people. And, through the multi-donor Ecotourism Initiative, USAID provided assistance to four pilot projects to develop ecological tourism, raise the capital inflow to remote regions, and contribute to the preservation of natural resources.

Simultaneously, the Eurasia Foundation continued work on other initiatives begun in FY 2002, including two related to micro-credit and media. The Eurasia Foundation's joint Micro-Credit Initiative with Karachaganak Petroleum and the local administration in West Kazakhstan Oblast provided loan capital to three micro-finance institutions. In turn, the institutions disbursed 165 loans totaling \$156,213 to farmers and small-scale entrepreneurs, creating 74 jobs. Through the Regional Independent Media Support Initiative, the Eurasia Foundation provided the staff of 13 Kazakhstan newspapers with business skills, enabling the newspapers to become financially and thus politically independent. As a result, six papers increased advertising revenues and seven reported circulation increases within one year.